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*Mer.* Take him, I am glad to get quit of him, for he has disturbed us all morning, swearing and talking like a fool. His tongue has not been at rest five minutes, these two hours, tumbling out nonsense in heaps, and abusing every body about him—Gentlemen, I am now going to give you a treat. Here is a precious article, indeed; nothing less I assure you, than the celebrated Mrs. Mary Anne Cl—ke. A.Z.

*To be continued.*

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*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

IN the Repository of Theology and general Literature for the last month, I find the following just censure on Thomas Clarkson, for his want of discrimination of character, when, in his History of the Abolition of the Slave Trade, he equally praises Fox and Pitt for the parts they respectively took in that business. The remarks are so congenial with my own, on reading that generally interesting work, that I beg permission for their insertion in your next number. The finesse of the one Statesman forms a contrast with the decided measures of the other. Nor should praise be withheld from Lord Grenville, whose last public act in office, was procuring the royal assent to the act which stamped this nefarious trade with legislative reprobation. This one circumstance shows how legislative assemblies in the present day are influenced, and how obsequious they are to the nod of the minister for the time being. The reason for abolishing this trade in 1791 and 1792 were as forcible, as in 1806; but in the former years truth and justice pleaded in vain; and in 1806 the just and necessary measure was carried, because Fox and Grenville, being ministers, were honest men.

A READER.

“Mr. Pitt was a speech maker, and could declaim as well upon the enormities of the Slave-trade, as upon the horrors of Jacobinism. His eloquence in behalf of the Africans, in the years 1790 and 1792, captivated both his friends and enemies. But why, it may be asked, did he not use his almost irresistible influence to abolish the evil

he so pathetically deplored? Was he strong only on the side of tyranny and aggression? It must be a subject of melancholy reflection to his admirers to think, that after all his declarations and protestations, he permitted the British slave trade to increase from an importation of 25,000 to an importation of 57,000 negroes in two years, ending 1798, by the capture of the Dutch and other settlements. If he had issued in 1797 the order of council 1805, above 30,000 negroes per annum would have been saved! What Mr. Pitt, who was prime minister of this country, with boundless power, for twenty years, could not, or would not effect, was accomplished by the Fox and Grenville ministry, which existed not so many months. But with them the matter was taken up on principle, and they staked their very being upon it. One of their first measures was to restrict the trade; they went on impairing it by degrees, and pledging the house, and preparing the country for its annihilation; and their very last act, was the glorious bill which wiped away this disgraceful traffic. And have they to divide the honour of this benevolent work with their predecessors, who, while they talked about it, did nothing to forward it! Let Mr. Clarkson answer this question, who with an impropriety most glaring, and injustice most shameful, dedicates his admirable “History of the Abolition,” equally to the names of Pitt and Fox. Mr. Fox’s friends disclaim the compliment, and the dedication will ever be an eye-sore in a work, which in other respects, benevolence would contemplate with unalloyed pleasure.”

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*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

THE ANCIENT MUSIC OF IRELAND ADAPTED TO THE PIANO FORTE.

MR. BUNTING is at present in London superintending this long expected collection, which is now *in the Press*, and will shortly be published with the highest embellishment of London Engravings. As the scope of this laborious undertaking, to which Mr. Bunting has devoted at least seventeen years, may not be known